

CLAIMS

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1. A processing method for data exchanged between a portable object and an interface device, characterized in that the method comprises a protocol detection mode implemented within and by the portable object in which the following steps are planned:
  - a) After transmission of a response upon turning on the portable object, an initial signal is received from the interface device;
  - b) In the portable object, said initial signal is sampled according to at least one of the first and second speeds associated with the first and second respective protocols;
  - c) In the portable object, at least one sample of a resulting sampling signal is compared to at least one key protocol condition proper to one of the first and second protocols; and
  - d) According to the result of the comparison, the data exchanged according to one of the first or second communication protocols is processed in the portable object.
2. The method according to claim 1, characterized in that step b) consists of sampling said initial signal according to the first and second speeds while step c) consists of comparing at least one respective sample of each of the two resulting sampling signals to the first and second respective key conditions, each key condition being proper to one of the first and second protocols respectively.

3. The method according to claim 1, characterized in that step b) consists of sampling the initial signal according to the first or second speed, respectively corresponding to the first and second protocols, and in that step c) consists of comparing at least one sample of the resulting sampling signal to one key protocol condition proper to the first protocol, second protocol respectively; and in that step d) consists of processing the data exchanged according to the first protocol, second protocol respectively, in case of a positive comparison and according to the second protocol, first protocol respectively, in case of a negative comparison.
4. The method according to any one of the previous claims, characterized in that the key protocol condition proper to the first protocol relates to the parity of the first bit of the first character.
5. The method according to claim 1, characterized in that the second key protocol condition at the second protocol relates to the value of the most significant bit of the first character.
6. The method according to claim 1, characterized in that the elementary time unit of the first speed is equal to  $372/if$ , where "if" is the frequency provided by the interface device during the response when the portable object is turned on.
7. The method according to claim 1, characterized in that the elementary time unit of the second speed is equal to  $396/if$ , where "if" is the frequency provided by the interface device during the response when the portable object is turned on.

8. The method according to any one of the previous claims, characterized in that the portable object is a chip card implementing both a protocol in conformance with ISO standard 7816-3 and a SYSTER (registered trademark) digital television protocol.
9. A portable object able to exchange data with an interface device, characterized in that the portable object comprises means for processing able, after transmission of a response to the portable object being turned on, to receive from the interface device an initial signal; to sample said initial signal according to at least one of the first and second speeds associated with the first and second respective protocols, to compare at least one sample of said initial signal thus sampled according to at least one of said first and second speeds to at least one key protocol condition proper to one of the first and second protocols, and according to the result of the comparison, to process the data thus exchanged according to one of the first or second communication protocols.
10. The portable object according to claim 9, characterized in that the key condition proper to the first protocol relates to the parity of the first bit of the first character sampled at the speed in conformance with the standard.
11. The portable object according to claim 9, characterized in that the key condition proper to the second protocol relates to the value of the most significant bit of the first character read at the non-conforming speed.
12. The portable object according to claim 9, characterized in that the elementary time unit of the

first speed in conformance is equal to  $372/if$ , where "if" is the frequency provided by the interface device during the response to the portable object being turned on.

13. The portable object according to claim 9, characterized in that the elementary time unit of the second speed in conformance is equal to  $396/if$ , where "if" is the frequency provided by the interface device during the response to the portable object being turned on.
14. The portable object according to any one of claims 10 to 13, characterized in that the portable object is a chip card implementing both a protocol in conformance with ISO standard 7816-3 or similar and a SYSTER (registered trademark) digital television protocol.
15. A computer program stored on an information support, said program comprising instructions allowing the implementation of a processing method according to any of claims 1 to 8, when this program is loaded and executed by a computer system.